



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Army Human Resources Command
Combat-Related Special Compensation
200 Stovall Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22332-0470

November 26, 2008

Combat-Related Special
Compensation Branch

To Veterans Administration (VA) or Local Military Treatment Facility (MTF) Doctor:

The purpose of this letter will explain the intent of your patient's appointment. This Retiree has submitted a claim for benefits under the Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Program and has not been able to produce evidence that we can use to substantiate the claim. DOD guidelines do not allow us to accept personal or buddy statements and only allow us to use official documentary evidence (i.e. VA rating decisions, sick call slips, and medical consultation documents from a licensed medical provider at VA or MTF medical facilities).

The lack of evidence supporting "how" an injury occurred is CRSC's number one reason for denial. We do not have access to Retiree documentation that provides "how" the claimed conditions happened. If you, as a licensed medical provider, are willing to assist by going through this Retiree's medical and personnel documents to determine "how" the injury happened, then we are authorized to use your medical documents (not letters) to assist in the claim substantiation.

It is necessary that you provide this program office with copies of the documents used to make your determination. The records will not be considered the sole evidentiary documentation but used to assist this office in adjudication of the claim.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John F. Sackett", is written over the typed name.

John F. Sackett
Colonel, U.S. Army
Chief, Combat-Related Special
Compensation Division